



NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT RESOLVES NLRB UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE COMPLAINTS INVOLVING US WEST DIRECT AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

NLRB General Counsel Fred Feinstein today announced the resolution of a labor dispute involving US West Direct, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1269. After substantial litigation conducted by the NLRB's Phoenix Regional Office, agreement was reached requiring the reinstatement of several employees of US West Direct with backpay. US West Direct is a subsidiary of US West Communications. US West Direct and the union also established an Ombudsman Review Committee to which employees can direct complaints if US West Direct grants special employment preferences to Union officials. In addition, US West Direct will engage an independent consulting firm to evaluate US West Direct's business practices and to change them if they give preference to Union officials. US West's compliance with the terms of the settlement will be monitored by the staff of the NLRB's Phoenix Regional Office.

In making the announcement, General Counsel Feinstein said:

"I am pleased that this long-standing and complex labor relations matter has been resolved by the parties. The employees who were discharged have been made whole through reinstatement to their former positions with backpay, and the parties have established an effective mechanism to monitor and improve labor relations at US West Direct."

In announcing the resolution of this dispute, Roy H. Garner, Director of the NLRB's Phoenix Regional Office, stated: "The staff of Region 28 has dedicated the successful resolution of this case to Field Attorney Robin R. Bucknell, who was the lead attorney in the litigation of this matter. But for her hard work, preparation, insight, diligence, and devotion to duty, no settlement agreement could have been reached." Ms. Bucknell died during childbirth in March 1994.

General Counsel Feinstein added: "I want to thank Director Garner and his staff for the fine work they did to bring this matter to a successful conclusion, and I join with them in dedicating their work on this case to Robin Bucknell's memory."

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